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The Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice will host its first conference devoted to the topic of Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) on June 28-29 at the Hilton Hotel at Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia.

The conference is geared for those in juvenile justice management, judges or criminal justice service providers.

DMC exists when the proportion of minority youth detained or confined in secure correctional facilities, jails or lockups exceed their proportion in the general population.

Attendees at the two-day conference will hear from James. R. Bell, executive director of the Haywood Burns Institute, a leading national organization based in California that is working to reduce the overrepresentation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system; Vincent Schiraldi, president of the Justice Policy Institute in Washington, D.C.; Judge Frank Orlando, director of the Center for Youth Policy at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and Bob Weaver, chief executive officer of Associated Marine Institutes, Inc., a non-profit organization that operates over 50 programs for juvenile offenders in Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, New Mexico, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia that treat adjudicated youth versus having them committed to juvenile correctional centers.